

## CHAPTER 11

### SECTION 13.1

# HEALTH CARE FINDER AND PARTICIPATING PROVIDER PROGRAM (HCF&PPP)

Issue Date: August 6, 1990

Authority: DoDI 6010.18

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#### I. ISSUE

Policy regarding the Health Care Finder and Participating Provider Program (HCF&PPP).

#### II. DEFINITION

The Health Care Finder and Participating Provider Program is a referral program that maximizes the use by TRICARE beneficiaries of civilian participating providers under agreement established at the option of an MTF commander when needed services are not available in the Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs). The intent is to improve services to beneficiaries by having the MTFs refer beneficiaries to civilian providers who will always participate on claims, handle the claim filing responsibilities, and may offer a discounted rate.

#### III. DISCUSSION

Military Treatment Facility commanders are responsible for entering into agreements when they have determined that specific services will not be available at the MTF. At a minimum, the participating provider will agree to participate on all TRICARE/CHAMPUS claims, whether referred by the MTF or not, and to handle the claim filing for the beneficiary. In addition, the Services will attempt to obtain billing discounts from the participating provider. In return, the Services agree, when specific services are unavailable in the MTF, to refer TRICARE beneficiaries as part of the Health Care Finder function to the HCF&PPP provider with the appropriate speciality. HCF&PPP providers may be institutional and noninstitutional providers.

#### IV. POLICY

A. Coverage Criteria. Claims from participating providers with a HCF&PPP agreement in effect are payable under the following conditions:

1. Existing TRICARE/CHAMPUS requirements are met relative to beneficiary eligibility and authorized providers.

2. The services rendered are otherwise covered within the TRICARE/CHAMPUS range of benefits.

3. Other requirements of DoD Instruction 6010.18 (attached) have been met.

B. Claims Processing. Claims processing procedures and procedures for handling agreements under the HCF&PPP are outlined in the [OPM Part Two, Chapter 15, Section I.](#)

V. EFFECTIVE DATE

The provisions of this policy are effective November 9, 1989.

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